

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 193317  
ORIGIN SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10  
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 ICA-11 NSC-05  
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DRAFTED BY S/NM:LMARTEN  
APPROVED BY S/NM:MFALCO  
S/NM:HGROOM  
IO/HDC:EEDWARDS  
ARA/RPP:EPERREAUULT  
ARA/C:SHOLLY  
S/NM:RADUGSTAD

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R 011345Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 193317

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SNAR, UN, CO

SUBJECT:NARCOTICS: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON DRUG CON-  
TROL PROBLEMS OF COLOMBIA

REF: GENEVA 10418

1. THE FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST OF REFTTEL ON  
BEHALF OF MR. MICHAEL DAVIES, DND, FOR INFORMATION ON COL-  
OMBIA DRUG SITUATION FROM USG VIEWPOINT.

2. COLOMBIA IS THE WORLD'S MAJOR CENTER FOR PROCESSING  
ILLEGAL COCAINE FOR EXPORT TO THE UNITED STATES, CANADA,  
AND WESTERN EUROPE. MOST OF THE COCAINE BASE OR PASTE PRO-  
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PAGE 02 STATE 193317

CESSED IN COLOMBIA ORIGINATES IN PERU, WITH SMALLER QUANTIT-  
IES COMING FROM BOLIVIA AND ECUADOR. THOUGH COLOMBIA IS NOT  
YET A MAJOR PRODUCER OF COCA, IT;HAS THE POTENTIAL TO GROW  
LARGE QUANTITIES OF THIS LEAF. IT IS A JOR PRODUCER AND  
EXPORTER OF ILLEGAL MARIJUANA FOR THE U.S. MARKET AND HAS  
A POSITIVE POTENTIAL FOR OPIUM PRODUCTION.

3. COLOMBIA, WITH ITS DIFFICULT TERRAIN, BORDERING ON FIVE COUNTRIES AND WITH SEACOASTS ON TWO OCEANS, PRESENTS A MULTITUDE OF PHYSICAL OBSTACLES TO ENFORCEMENT AND CONTROL OF NARCOTICS. MOREOVER, THE CULTURAL, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL REALITIES IN COLOMBIA EXACERBATE THE SITUATION.

4. IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS, THE GOC HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY CONCERNED BY THE BUILDUP IN COCAINE TRAFFICKING AND PROCESSING IN THE COUNTRY. IN MID-1977, PRESIDENT ALFONSO LOPEZ MICHELSEN EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO JOIN FORCES IN AN EXPANDED NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORT. PRESIDENT-ELECT TURBAY HAS EXPRESSED HIS INTENTION TO ACTIVELY CONTINUE THIS COMMITMENT.

5. IN DECEMBER 1977, A DECREE WAS PROMULGATED BY PRESIDENT LOPEZ, CREATING A NARCOTICS BRANCH UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR JUDICIAL POLICE (AAGJP) WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENJAL. THE INTENTION IS TO CENTRALIZE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT IN THIS OFFICE AND TO ELIMINATE OVERLAPPING RESPONSIBILITIES AMONG EXISTING ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES.

6. THE AAGJP WAS ACTIVATED IN LATE 1973, WITH A FORCE OF 18 OFFICERS AND MEN SELECTED FROM THE NATIONAL POLICE, ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT FOR SECURITY (DAS) AND CUSTOMS. ITS TASK IS TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE CUSTOMS SERVICE, THE ARMED FORCES, AND OTHER TRADITIONAL ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 193317

TITIES, TOWARD EFFECTIVE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT IN COLOMBIA. THE AAGJP IS STRUCTURALLY WELL CONCEIVED, WITH COMPETENT, FORWARD-LOOKING LEADERSHIP. ITS STAFF IS YOUNG AND ENTHUSIASTIC, AND ITS EFFECTIVENESS, AS MEASURED BY RECENT SEIZURES AND ARRESTS, HAS IMPROVED STEADILY SINCE ITS INCEPTION. NEVERTHELESS, IT REMAINS ESSENTIALLY A REACTIVE FORCE, WITH LITTLE CAPABILITY TO IDENTIFY, TARGET, AND APPREHEND MAJOR TRAFFICKERS. IT LACKS PROPER COMMUNICATION, MOBILITY, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. WITH A PRESENT COMPLEMENT OF 116, THREE-QUARTERS OF WHOM ARE ENGAGED IN ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS, AAGJP IS TOO SMALL TO PROVIDE NATIONWIDE COVERAGE. LAND BORDER CONTROLS ARE MINIMUM.

7. THE USG PRESENTLY HAS SIX INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAMS ONGOING IN COLOMBIA:

(A) ATTORNEY GENERAL'S JUDICIAL POLICE NARCOTICS UNIT: THE AG'S OFFICE TO PROVIDE CENTRAL DIRECTION AND COORDINATE ALL ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES.

(B) NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE UNIT (UNDER AAGJP): CREATE A RESPONSIVE ORGANIZATION PROVIDING ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE TO ENFORCEMENT.

(C) COMBINED NARCOTICS TRAINING CENTER: ESTABLISH A

ENFORCEMENT TRAINING TO AAGJP ENFORCEMENT AND INTELLIGENCE UNITS AS WELL AS OTHER ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES.

(D) CUSTOMS: (MARITIME NARCOTICS INTERDICTION) PROVIDE THE GOC WITH THE CAPABILITY TO INCREASE THE INTERDICTION OF NARCOTICS AND OTHER CONTRABAND, THROUGH AIR, LAND, AND MARINE OPERATIONS.

(E) SURVEY AND ERADICATION OF NARCOTICS CULTIVATIONS: SEARCH AND SURVEY CULTIVATIONS OF DRUGS AND CONDUCT ERADICATION CAMPAIGNS AGAINST THOSE CULTIVATIONS DISCOVERED, WITHIN GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY.

(F) PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION: DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS IN PREVENTION, AWARENESS AND REHABILITATION.  
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PAGE 04 STATE 193317

8. THE AREAS IN WHICH NO POSITIVE STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO DATE ARE PREVENTION, EDUCATION, AND REHABILITATION TREATMENT. AN EMPHASIS IN THESE AREAS COULD POSSIBLY SHOW POSITIVE RESULTS AND WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR UNFDAC INVOLVEMENT. SUGGEST THAT MR. MAGNUSSEN CONTACT RICHARD MARTINEZ, NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER AMERICAN EMBASSY, UPON HIS ARRIVAL. ALSO SUGGEST IF POSSIBLE THAT HE MEET WITH AMBASSADOR ASECIO TO DISCUSS CURRENT SITUATION AND TO BRIEF AMBASSADOR ON UNFDAC OPERATIONS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NARCOTICS, DRUGS, INFORMATION EXCHANGE  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE193317  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** LMARTEN  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014